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aggressive and the defeated revengeful, thus sowing the seeds of future wars.

9. That the truest heroism is not physical but moral, as when one dares to stand alone for the right and chooses to suffer loss, ridicule and obloquy, rather than be the partner in wrong-doing; that the humblest deed of daring and self-sacrifice for the good of others is glorious; that "he that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city"; and that the only contest between nations should be in the effort to outdo each other in promoting the welfare of mankind.

10. That since in all conflicts each party believes itself in the right and neither can be an impartial judge, however it may have been in past ages when there was no umpire for the adjudication of international disputes, there is now no longer any excuse for a hasty resort to force, or for a foolish persistence in fighting to the death; for there not only exists a great tribunal, the Court of The Hague, recognized the world over and proved by experience to be a proper forum for the investigation and peaceful arbitrament of controversies before the outbreak of war, but the signatory powers that established it have also distinctly agreed that any one of them should have "the right of tendering its good offices or mediation" between contending states at any stage in the course of hostilities, and that "the exercise of this right can never be considered by either of the disputing parties as an unfriendly act."

11. Finally, that it is the duty of all that teach and all that study history to gain a proper perspective; to lift themselves and others above the standpoint of mere selfish interests; to recognize that history in its true meaning is not the annals of war and bloodshed, but the record of the development of pacific civilization, of religion, of education, of law, of industry, of commerce, of science, of invention, of art, of language, of social and political institutions; to observe the trend of events toward the fulfillment of the prophecy that ultimately "nation shall not lift up sword against nation"; to endeavor to disarm opposition and overcome indifference in this movement to magnify peace and minimize war; and to contribute all possible effort to secure in the near future a realization of the poet's vision of "The Parliament of Man: the Federation of the World," which shall be the safe guardian of national rights, the perpetual guarantor of international peace.

Your Committee therefore respectfully suggest for your consideration the propriety of making an earnest appeal to superintendents and teachers and to the writers of histories to utilize every suitable opportunity for inculcating in the minds of children and youth the principles herein set forth and for giving them information in regard to the successive steps in this great evolution; and particularly that they be urged to make the most of the 18th of May as an anniversary dedicated to the diffusion and the fostering of the sentiment of the Universal Brotherhood of Man, the Universal Sisterhood of Nations.

Respectfully submitted,

HOMER B. SPRAGUE, *Chairman.*

FANNY FERN ANDREWS,

WILLIAM A. MOWRY,

*Committee.*

## Letter to the President in Regard to the Coming Pan-American Conference.

The following letter was sent to President Roosevelt by the Directors of the American Peace Society on April 7:

TO THEODORE ROOSEVELT,

*President of the United States.*

The Board of Directors of the American Peace Society, in common with other citizens of the nation, are expecting that the forthcoming International American Conference at Rio Janeiro will contribute greatly toward the strengthening and perfecting of the bonds of friendship between all the States of the western hemisphere. They particularly hope that the instructions given to the United States Delegation and the action of the Delegation in the Conference may be in every respect such as to convince the Central and South American countries that the United States has no intention whatever, either in upholding the Monroe Doctrine or in any other of its policies, of trespassing upon the rights of the other American republics as independent and sovereign states, but wishes only to promote in every possible way their highest independent self-development, and their friendly political and commercial relations with our own country.

The Board respectfully asks that in formulating the instructions to be given to the United States Delegates, you will consider whether it would not be wise, in the interests of permanent friendly relations among the American Republics, that the International American Conference should be made a regular organization, to meet at stated periods, under the administrative management of the Bureau of American Republics, which, according to the program of the coming Conference, we understand it is planned to make a permanent organization. The Board believes that such an organization of the States of this hemisphere would be a very great step in promoting the highest interests of civilization and the establishment of justice and peace throughout the world.

The Board desires further to call your special attention to the fact that the coming Pan-American Conference will afford an admirable opportunity for our nation to join with the republics of South and Central America in an earnest remonstrance against the unfortunate and disquieting policy, by which certain governments seek to collect the debts of their subjects by the use or the threat of violence, a policy contrary to the precedents generally followed by the United States and tending obviously to do injustice to innocent people and to endanger the peace of the world. Could the government of the United States do anything more effectual to promote good feeling and security among our Southern neighbors than by giving the assurance that it will not be a party to the collection of debts by force of arms, and will throw the powerful support of its example and diplomatic influence against this practice?

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

(Signed)

ROBERT TREAT PAINE, *President,*

BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD, *Secretary.*

To this letter the Secretary of State, to whom it was referred by the President, has replied that the suggestions made will have the "thoughtful consideration" of

the government when it gives its instructions to the delegates to the conference at Rio Janeiro.

### Text of the Czar's Invitation to the Second Hague Peace Conference.

Though the date, the second half of July, mentioned in the following circular of invitation sent out by the Russian government for the assembling of the second Hague Conference, has been put off on account of the holding of the Pan-American Conference at that period, our readers will all wish to see the text of the document. The translation is that which appeared in the *London Tribune* for April 7:

"In taking the initiative in convoking a second Peace Conference, the Imperial Government has had in view the necessity of giving a fresh development to the humanitarian principles which served as a basis for the work of the great international meeting of 1899.

"It believed at the same time that it would be opportune to increase, as far as possible, the number of States participating in the work of the projected Conference; and the enthusiasm with which this appeal has been met testifies to the depth and universality of the sentiment of solidarity which makes for the application of ideas having as their object the good of humanity as a whole.

"The first Conference separated with the conviction that its work should be completed subsequently through the regular progress of enlightenment among peoples and in accordance with the dictates of experience. Its most important creation, the International Court of Arbitration, is an institution which has already been put to the test, and has brought together in an Areopagus, for the benefit of humanity, jurists who enjoy universal respect. It is also evident how beneficent the International Commissions of Inquiry have been in the solution of difficulties between States.

"None the less, there is still a need of improvement in the Convention concerning the Pacific Regulation of International Disputes. As a result of recent arbitrations, the jurists sitting as an International Court have raised certain questions of detail which must be decided so as to give the said Convention its necessary development. It has seemed especially desirable that fixed principles should be laid down regarding the languages to be used in the procedure of the Court, in view of the difficulties which might arise in the future, as the number of applications to the Court of Arbitration increased. There is also need of certain improvements in the working of the International Commissions of Inquiry.

"Touching the regulation of the Laws and Practices of Land Warfare, the arrangements made by the first Conference need no less to be completed and defined in such a way as to prevent any misunderstanding.

"As regards Naval Warfare, of which the laws and usages differ in certain points in different countries, it is necessary to establish fixed regulations in harmony with the requirements of the rights of belligerents and the interests of neutrals.

"An agreement touching these matters should be

drawn up, and would form one of the most notable parts of the work of the coming Conference.

"The Imperial Government, believing that it is necessary only to examine questions which press with particular urgency inasmuch as they arise from the experience of recent years, and without touching on those which belong to the limitation of Military and Naval Forces, proposes therefore as program for the Conference the following principal points:

"1. Improvements to be made in the arrangements of the Convention touching the pacific settlement of international disputes regarding both the Court of Arbitration and the International Commissions of Inquiry.

"2. Additions to be made in the arrangements of the Convention of 1899 touching the Laws and Practices of Land Warfare, among others the opening of hostilities, the rights of neutrals on land, etc. Declarations of 1899, one among them being renewable — the question of its renewal.

"3. Elaboration of a Convention touching the Laws and Practices of Naval Warfare concerning —

"The special operations of naval warfare, such as the bombardment of ports, towns, and villages by a naval force, the laying of mines, etc.

"The transformation of commercial vessels into warships.

"The private property of belligerents at sea.

"The delay to be accorded to commercial vessels in leaving neutral ports or those of the enemy after the outbreak of hostilities.

"The rights and duties of neutrals at sea, among other questions that of contraband, the treatment to which the ships of belligerents should be subjected in neutral ports, destruction by *force majeure* of neutral ships of commerce as prizes.

"In the said Convention should be introduced arrangements relative to land warfare, which should be equally applicable to naval warfare.

"Additions to be made in the Convention of 1899 for the adaptation to naval warfare of the principles of the Geneva Convention of 1864.

"Just as at the Conference of 1899, it should be understood that the deliberations of the proposed Conference shall deal neither with the political relations among States, nor with the order of things established by treaties, nor yet with any general interests which were not directly included in the program adopted by the Cabinets.

"The Imperial Government desires to emphasize that the issue of this program, and its eventual acceptance by the various States, must not be held to prejudice any opinion which might be formulated in the Conference regarding the solutions to be given to the questions submitted for discussion. Equally, it should belong to the projected Conference to determine the order of questions for discussion and the form to be given to its decisions, according as it may be considered preferable to include certain of them in new conventions, or to add them as supplements to existing conventions.

"In formulating the above program the Imperial Government has taken into account, as far as possible, the desires expressed by the first Peace Conference, notably in regard to the rights and duties of neutrals, private property of belligerents at sea, the bombardment of ports,